NUMB. CCCLXVIII.

# The SPECTATOR.

*Nos decebat*
*Lugere ubi eſſet aliquis in Lucem editus*
*Humanæ vitæ varia reputantes mala*
*At qui Labores morte finiſſet graves*
*Omnes amicos laude & lætitia exequi.* Euripides apud Tull.

*Friday, May* 2. 1712.

AS the *Spectator* is in a Kind a Paper of News from the natural World, as others are from the buſy and politick Part of Mankind, I ſhall tranſlate the following Letter written to an eminent *French* Gentleman in this Town from *Paris*; which gives us the Exit of a Heroine who is a Pattern of Patience and Generoſity.

*SIR*, *Paris, April* 18. 1712.

'IT is ſo many Years ſince you left your native Country, that I am to tell you the Characters of your neareſt Relations as much as if you were an utter Stranger to them. The Occaſion of this is to give you an Account of the Death of Madam *de Villacerfe*, whoſe Departure out of this Life I know not whether a Man of your Philoſophy will call unfortunate or not, ſince it was attended with ſome Circumſtances as much to be deſired as to be lamented: She was her whole Life happy in an uninterrupted Health, and was always honoured for an Evenneſs of Temper and Greatneſs of Mind. On the 10th Inſtant that Lady was taken with an Indiſpoſition which confined her to her Chamber, but was ſuch as was too ſlight to make her take a ſick Bed, and yet too grievous to admit of any Satisfaction in being out of it. It is notoriouſly known that ſome Years ago Monſieur *Feſteau*, one of the moſt conſiderable Surgeons in *Paris*, was deſperately in love with this Lady: Her Quality placed her above any application to her, on the Account of his Paſſion; but as a Woman always has ſome regard to the Perſon whom ſhe believes to be her real Admirer, ſhe now took it in her Head (upon advice of her Phyſicians, to looſe ſome of her Blood,) to ſend for Monſieur *Feſteau* on that occaſion. I happened to be there at that time, and my near Relation gave me the privilege to be preſent. As ſoon as her Arm was ſtriped bare and he began to preſs it, in order to raiſe the Vein, his Colour changed, and I obſerved him ſeized with a ſudden Tremor, which made me take the Liberty to ſpeak of it to my Couſin with ſome Apprehenſion: She Smiled and ſaid ſhe knew Mr. *Feſteau* had no Inclination to do her Injury. He ſeemed to recover himſelf and Smiling alſo, proceeded in his Work: Immediately after the Operation, he cryed out, that he was the moſt unfortunate of all Men, for that he had opened an Artery inſtead of a Vein: It is as impoſſible to expreſs the Artiſt's Diſtraction, as the Patients Compoſure. I will not dwell on little Circumſtances, but go on to inform you, that within Three Days Time it was thought neceſſary to take of her Arm. She was ſo far from uſing *Feſteau*, as it would be natural to one of a lower Spirit to treat him, that ſhe would not let him be abſent from any Conſultation about her preſent Condition, and on every Occaſion asked whether he was ſatisfy'd in the Meaſures were taken about her. Before this laſt Operation ſhe ordered her Will to be drawn, and after having been about a Quarter of an Hour alone, ſhe bid the Surgeons, of whom poor *Feſteau* was one, go on in their Work. I know not how to give you the Terms of Art; but there appeared ſuch Symptoms after the Amputation of her Arm, that it was viſible ſhe could not live four and twenty Hours. Her behaviour was ſo Magnanimous throughout this whole Affair, that I was particularly Curious in taking Notice of what paſſed as her Fate approached nearer and nearer, and took Notes of what ſhe ſaid to all about her, particularly Word for Word what ſhe ſpoke to Mr. *Feſteau*, which was as follows.

*SIR*,

"YOU give me inexpreſſible Sorrow for the Anguiſh with which I ſee you overwhelmed. I am removed to all Intents and Purpoſes from the Intereſts of humane Life, therefore I am to begin to think like one wholly unconcerned in it. I do not conſider you as one by whoſe Errour I have loſt my Life: No, you

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" are my Benefactor, as you have haſtened my " Entrance into a happy Immortality. This is " my Senſe of this Accident, but the World in " which you live may have Thoughts of it to your " Diſadvantage; I have therefore taken Care to " provide for you in my Will, and have placed " you above what you have to fear from their ill " Nature.

' While this excellent Woman ſpoke theſe ' Words, *Feſteau* looked as if he received a Con- ' demnation to dye inſtead of a Penſion for his ' Life. Madam *de Villacerfe* lived till Eight of ' Clock the next Night; and though ſhe muſt have ' laboured under the moſt exquiſite Torments, ſhe ' poſſeſſed her Mind with ſo wonderful a Patience, ' that one may rather ſay ſhe ceaſed to breath than ' ſhe dyed at that Hour. You, who had not the ' Happineſs to be perſonally known to this Lady, ' have nothing but to rejoyce in the Honour you ' had of being related to ſo great Merit; but we, ' who have loſt her Converſation, cannot ſo eaſily ' reſign our own Happineſs by Reflexion upon hers.

*I am,*
*SIR,*
*Your affectionate Kinſman,*
*and moſt obedient humble Servant,*
Paul Regnaud.

There hardly can be a greater Inſtance of an Heroick Mind, than the unprejudiced manner in which this Lady weighed this Misfortune. The regard of Life it ſelf could not make her overlook the Contrition of the unhappy Man, whoſe more than Ordinary Concern for her, was all his Guilt. It would certainly be of ſingular uſe to Humane Society, to have an exact Account of this Lady's ordinary Conduct, which was Crowned by ſo uncommon magnanimity. Such Greatneſs was not to be acquired in her laſt Article, nor is to be doubted but it was a conſtant Practice of all that is praiſe-worthy, which made her capable of beholding Death, not as the Diſſolution but Conſummation of her Life.

For the Benefit of Mrs. SANTLOW.

At the Deſire of ſeveral Ladies of Quality.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Friday, being the 2d of May, will be preſented a Comedy call'd, The Stratagem: With Dancing by Monſ. De Legard, and Mrs. Santlow. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes. And to Morrow being Saturday, will be preſented a Comedy call'd, The Rover; or, The Baniſh'd Cavaliers: To which will be added a Farce of one Act, only call'd, The Stage-Coach.

AT Punch's Theatre in the Little-Piazza, Covent-Garden, this preſent Friday, being the 2d, and to Morrow being the 3d of May, will be preſented an Opera call'd, The State of Innocence; or, The Fall of Man. With variety of Scenes and Machines, particularly the Scene of Paradice in its primitive State, with Birds, Beaſts, and all its antient Inhabitants: The Subtilty of the Serpent in betraying Adam and Eve, &c. with variety of diverting Interludes, too many to be inſerted here. No Perſons to be admitted with Masks or Riding-Hoods: Nor no Money to be returned after the Curtain is up. Boxes 2 s. Pit 1 s. Beginning exactly at 7 a Clock.

THE famous Water-Theatre of the late Ingenious Mr. Winſtanly is opened, where is ſhewn the greateſt Curioſities in Water-Works, the like was never performed before by any. And this preſent Night will be added to the Sea Gods and Goddeſſes, Nymphs, Mermaids, and Satyrs, all which play Water, and ſome of them Fire mingling with the Water, a Milk-Maid, Fidler and Garland, ſuitable to the Day; and a Sea Nymph. Containing Eleven Figures, with ſeveral other very delightful things, too many to be mentioned here. The Houſe is at the Lower-end of Piccadilly going down to Hide-Park, and is known by the Windmill on the Top of it. It is ſhown for the Benefit of his Widow every Evening between 5 and 6 of the Clock.

At the Deſire of ſeveral Gentlemen and Ladies, on Monday the 5th of May.

At the Duke of Marlborough's Head in Fleet-ſtreet, in the great Room, is to be ſeen the famous Poſture-Maſter of Europe, who far exceeds the deceaſed Poſture-Maſter Clarke and Higgins: He extends his Body into all deformed Shapes; makes his Hip and Shoulder Bones meet together; lays his Head upon the Ground, and turns his Body round twice or thrice, without ſtirring his Face from the Place; ſtands upon one Leg, and extends the other in a perpendicular Line half a Yard above his Head; and extends his Body from a Table, with his Head a Foot below his Heels, having nothing to balance his Body but his Feet: With ſeveral other Poſtures too tedious to mention. Likewiſe a Child about 9 Years of Age, that ſhews ſuch Poſtures as never was ſeen performed by one of his Age. Alſo the famous Engliſh Artiſt, who turns his Balls into living Birds, and takes an empty Bag, which after being turned, trod, and ſtamped on, produces ſome Hundred of Eggs, and at laſt a living Hen. Side Boxes 2 s. Pit 1 s. To be performed at 7 a Clock this Evening

A choice Collection of ORIGINAL PICTURES by ſeveral extraordinary good Hands, will be Sold by Auction, on this Day the 2d of May, at Mr. Pellitier's, next Houſe to the Wheat-Sheaf, in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden: Where Catalogues may be had, and of Mr. Cooper, at the three Pigeons, in Half-Moon-ſtreet.

In a Cellar under Mr. Hanborow's in Buckler's-Bury near Cheapſide, is continued to be ſold by Retale a Parcel of choice old French Brandy, of a curious Taſte and Flavour, lately imported from North-Britain, at 10 s. per Gallon. Any Perſon taking 10 Gallons or upwards, ſhall have it for 9 s. 6 d. There is likewiſe in the ſame Cellar to be ſold by Retale, a Parcel of choice red Galicia Wines of laſt Years Growth, neat as they came from the Grape, at 4 s. per Gallon.

The Swan Tavern in Old-Fiſh-ſtreet, a noted well-accuſtom'd Houſe, well fitted up and in good Repair, to be Lett with or without Stabling adjoyning thereto: The Vaults are moſt kindly and commodious, and the Cellarage and all other Offices extremely fit and properly placed for uſe. Inquire at Mr. Tho. Wans at the Plow at the Back Door of the ſaid Tavern, or at Mr. Peter Shorts, Attorney, in the Poultry near Stocks-Market.

This Day is Publiſh'd,

A new Opera called Hercules: As it is to be performed at the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

Brooke and Hellier give Notice, that having a freſh Supply of natural Chianti Florence Wines arriv'd, and being reſolved not only to ſell all their Wines neat and natural, but alſo as cheap as can poſſibly be afforded, they have ordered their Servants in all their Taverns and Cellars to ſell the ſame henceforward at 2 s. per Quart, 7 s. 6 d. per Gallon, and 30 Gallons for 10 l.

At Whitton in Middleſex is to be Lett (with Land or without, and with furniture or without) a very good faſhionable Houſe of 8 Rooms on a Floor, with Saſh-Windows and Cloſets, and very good Offices, Landry, Brew-houſe and Dove houſe, Coach-houſe and Stables, and very handſome Gardens wall'd round and planted with the beſt Fruit, adorn'd with Statues, fine Greens, and a Wilderneſs, and Kitchen-Gardens, all lying compact. It is between Hamworth and Twickenham, about 10 Miles from London, 2 from Brentford, 3 from Kingſton, 2 from Richmond, and between 2 and 3 from Hampton-Court. Enquire of Mr. Thomas Jackſon Surgeon at Twickenham, or at Tom's Coffee-houſe in Devereaux-Court near the Temple, London.

This Day are Publiſh'd,

1. The Regulation of Diverſions 8vo. Price 6 d.
2. The Duty of Peaceableneſs explained and enforced. In a Serm preached March 30. 1712. On Rom. xii. 18. If it be poſſible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all Men: Occaſioned by a Diſcourſe from the ſame Text, at Taunton-Aſſizes, March 25. By Henry Grove. Price 3 d. both Printed for John Clark, at the Bible and Crown in the Old-Change.

This Day is Publiſh'd,

A full Confutation of Witchcraft. More particularly of the Depoſitions againſt Jane Wenham lately Condemn'd for a Witch at Hertford, in which the Modern Notions of Witches are Overthrown, and the ill Conſequences of ſuch Doctrines are expos'd. In a Letter from a Phyſician in Hertfordſhire to his Friend in London. Price 6 d. Sold by J. Baker in Pater-Noſter-Row; where may be had the Impoſſibility of Witchcraft by another Author. Price 6 d.

The Danger and Folly of Evil Courſes: Being a practical Diſcourſe, ſhewing the baſe and vile Nature of Sin, and the dreadful Conſequences of it, as well in this World, as that which is to come. With ſuch effectual Remedies, as, if rightly apply'd, will prevent it; and bring Men to a true Love of God and Religion. Partly extracted from the Writings of Abp. Tillotſon, Abp. Sharp, Bp. Taylor, B. Stillingfleet, Bp. Patrick, Dr. Scott, Dr. Horneck, Dr. Lucas, Dr. Sherlock, Dr. Stanhope, Mr. Kettlewell, Judge Hale, &c. By Frances Hewerdine, Preſbyter in the Church of England. Printed for D. Brown, at the Black-Swan without Temple-Bar.

*LONDON*: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.

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